

DATE: January 26, 2006**SUBJECT:** Jackson State Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: West Tennessee has been unsuccessful in attracting graduates from the other two programs in Tennessee which are located at Nashville State and Roane State. Graduates of these programs tend to remain and practice near their homes. West Tennessee is therefore without Occupation Therapy Assistants and virtually no possibility that this will improve unless the hospital and the college work together to help meet the demand for these medical professionals. Traveling OTA's have occasionally been available at extremely high cost to the health care providers and the patients while falling critically short of meeting this large and growing need.

The proposed OTA is designed to expand Jackson State Community College's commitment of:

- Providing highly qualified and ethical health care professionals
- Providing a theoretical and skilled based education preparing students to become competent entry-level Occupational Therapy Assistants
- Developing an Occupational Therapy Assistant program that meets or exceeds acceptable standards of accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE)
- Meeting the demand for Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants in West Tennessee
- Preparing students to successfully complete licensure requirements as set forth by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) and the State of Tennessee

PROPOSED START-UP DATE: Fall 2006

Commission staff has reviewed program proposals according to the academic standards adopted by the Commission on November 14, 2002. Each standard is referenced below.

1.1.20A MISSION: The proposed program is consistent with the mission to meet the higher education and workforce training needs of residents in the service area of the community college.

1.1.20B CURRICULUM: The proposed curriculum requires completion of 68 semester hours. Health care programs are extended an exception to exceed the

typical 60 hour rule due to credentialing requirements. Eleven new courses are required to implement the proposed program.

<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
General Education	17
Major Field Core	51

1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Eligible applicants must possess a 2.25 high school college GPA, score a minimum ACT composite of 19 or complete all required developmental courses and pass a drug screen and background check. Applicants will be selected from those meeting minimum requirements based on ACT, GPA, and an interview.

Projected Program Productivity

Student Projections	Full-time Enrollment	Part-time Enrollment	Graduates
Year 1	20	20	0
Year 2	36	36	15
Year 3	36	36	15

1.1.20D FACULTY: Two new faculty members will be required to implement the proposed program. A gift from the local hospital and student tuition will support additional faculty.

1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES: In addition to electronic library resources available to students, \$4,000 also has been budgeted for library materials to support implementation of the proposed new program.

1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION: The proposed program will be housed in the Department of Allied Health and coordinated in the Division of Professional and Technical Studies.

1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES: Jackson Madison County General Hospital requested that JSCC consider beginning an Occupational Therapy Assistant program. In order to assist with start-up cost, the Board of Directors authorized expenditures of \$209,000.

1.1.20H FACILITIES/INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT: Enrollment and graduation projections are based on local needs and the availability of clinical and laboratory space. Excellent lab space is available on the Jackson State campus. A former PTA lab and classroom will be available for the OTA program. There are no current plans to request additional space. A long-term plan of the college includes a new Health Science Building. A budget for instructional equipment has been established. Additional equipment will be purchased with the gift from the local hospital.

1.1.20I STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMANDS: The proposed OTA program has financial support, an interested pool of applicants, community support, and current job openings to meet reasonable expectations of immediate success. This program will allow Jackson State to better meet the Allied Health needs as expressed by local health care providers. Jackson State conducted a student interest survey in each Anatomy and Physiology section meeting on the main campus of the college. JASCC received a positive response to a survey of 248 students that identified more than 100 expressing an interest in applying for the program and upon implementation this number is expected to increase. Based on this response it is evident that there is a sufficient pool of applicants for the program.

Numerous other health care providers (area hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, home health agencies, child development centers, and psychiatric facilities) in West Tennessee will employ graduates of this program.

1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION: The proposed program will serve the needs of the JSCC 14 county service area. Program duplication is not an issue with this proposal. There are only two other OTA programs in Tennessee. One is located at Nashville State in Middle Tennessee and the other at Roane State in East Tennessee.

1.1.20K COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS: None indicated.

1.1.20L DESEGREGATION: The program will not impede the state's effort to achieve racial diversity.

1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION: JSCC uses a number of instruments to assess programs:

- Faculty members are evaluated each year by students to identify weaknesses and help the faculty members improve their instruction
- Each academic program submits an annual effectiveness plan and year end report. This is used to determine if agreed upon plans have been satisfactorily completed or if additional work may be required
- All graduates must take an exit exam evaluating the effectiveness of the general education portion of the program. Results are used to determine if weaknesses exist in these areas and to make course changes as needed

Jackson State Community College will apply for accreditation through the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). This is a three step process that involves a Letter of Intent to submit an Application for Developing Program Status, a Self-Study Report and initial on-site evaluation by ACOTE staff. The college plans to proceed through each of these steps as prescribed by the ACOTE accreditation process for new programs. SACS will be notified and procedures followed as required. JSCC plans to pursue full accreditation as quickly as the process allows.

1.1.20N ARTICULATION: N/A

1.1.20O EXTERNAL JUDGMENT (Graduate Programs): N/A

1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE: The primary benefit will be the local availability of licensed OTA's and the professional services they can provide. It is expected that graduates of the OTA program will want to stay and practice in the communities served by Jackson State. This has been a very strong trend of Allied Health graduates of Jackson State for many years. There will also be a positive economic impact upon the community and the college. Patients will be able to have medical procedures done near their home saving travel costs while providing greater employment in the JSCC service area. Upon successful completion of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program, graduates are fully prepared for employment as licensed health care providers meeting or exceeding all competencies of the profession.

A gift of \$209,000 has been awarded to the college by the Board of Trustees of Jackson-Madison County General Hospital. They agreed to fund all start up costs. Initially the salaries for the program director and the two part-time faculty members will be covered by the gift and tuition will cover program costs in subsequent years.

Financial Projections	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1. Expenditures					
A. One – time:					
New/renovated space					
Equipment	\$15,000				
Library	\$4,000				
Consultants					
Other					
Total for One-time Expenditures	\$19,000				
B. Recurring:					
Administration					
Faculty	\$24,000	\$68,000	\$88,000	\$88,000	\$88,000
Staff					
Benefits	\$6,720	\$13,440	\$13,440	\$13,440	\$13,440
Equipment					
Library		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Travel	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Other (Operating)	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
(Accreditation)	\$500	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$2,550
Total for Recurring Expenditures					
TOTAL (A + B)	\$66,220	\$97,940	\$118,440	\$118,440	\$118,440
2. Revenues					
State appropriations (new, FTE)					
*State appropriations (old)					
Tuition/Fees		\$50,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000
Institutional Resources					
Grants/Contracts					
Gifts (\$209,000)	\$66,220	\$47,940	\$28,440	\$28,440	\$28,440
Other (in-kind donations, etc.)					
TOTAL REVENUES	\$66,220	\$97,940	\$118,440	\$118,440	\$118,440

1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING: An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first three years following approval. The review will be based on goals established in the approved program proposal. At the end of this period, campus, governing board, and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. These goals include, but are not limited to enrollment and graduation numbers, program costs, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, student performance and other goals set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. As a result of this evaluation, if the program is found to be deficient, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. Copies of such recommendation will be forwarded to the Education Committees of the General Assembly. The Commission may also choose to extend this period if additional time is needed and requested by the governing board.